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be recognized as playing important parts in the social life. There is possibly something to be said in defense of a cautious eclecticism on this point as opposed to such one-sided positions as those of McDougall on the one hand and Sumner on the other. But the reader must feel the absence of any serious attempt to answer the burning question of what is innate and what is acquired and what is meant by the contrast. A footnote at the beginning of chapter iii rejects Cooley's contention that the separation is invalid, but seems to indicate a failure on the author's part to understand Professor Cooley's argument.

The highly optimistic concluding chapters on "Social Order," "Social Progress," and "The Nature of Society" proceed from the premise which we have noted as forming the conclusion of the chapter on "Instinct and Intelligence," namely, the complete objectivity of social purposes. The author seems even to assume that they are already known and recognized, and the possibility of conflict or inconsistency among them is not broached. "The psychological conception of society," he tells us (p. 324), "answers the questions which men have asked as to how far human society can be modified and in what ways most advantageously." To contradict so cheering a statement is not a pleasant task, but this book does not answer them. The "manipulation of the intellectual elements, ideas, standards, and values, especially in the young," is a prescription easy to write, but who will fill it? And, besides, the "intellectual" are presumably the objective elements upon which we depend for guidance in the manipulation. It will hardly be as evident to the critical reader as it seems to be to the author that human nature, in so far as it is a matter of "mores" rather than of "protoplasm," is therefore clay in the potter's hands, even granted that "we" (the potter), know just what we should like to do with it if we could. And the economist must look elsewhere for an attempt to answer the question in which he is interested, of what men "really" want, and why.

F. H. KNIGHT

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

A History of Commerce and Industry. By CHEESMAN A. HERRICK.
New York: Macmillan. Pp. 548.

The teacher who is seeking a brief compendium of the commercial and industrial activities of all times skilfully placed in a skeleton setting of political history and based upon a geographical background will welcome Dr. Herrick's book. The commerce—and to a slightly less

degree the industry—of every land which has written its name in history is described by the author. Beginning with the industry and trade of the Nile Valley in 3000 B.C., the author passes in turn to Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Greece, Rome, the Italian republics, mediaeval times, and thus to the business of "Modern Nations."

Throughout, the hand of the thoughtful and practiced teacher is evident. The limited number of pages devoted to each thought-unit, the unusual number, variety, and pertinence of illustrations and maps, the stimulating questions that close each chapter, and the well-chosen "Books for Consultation" all indicate that the book is the product of a teacher, and all these features will be appreciated by those who use it as a text.

Dr. Herrick has, perhaps, attempted the impossible. To put within the limits of one usable volume a survey of life from the crossing of the Red Sea to the time of the Panama Canal, from the "Shepherd Kings" to the Corporation School of the National City Bank, would be a large task if that survey were made with only a single purpose. Dr. Herrick acknowledges a trinity of aims: to present the essentials of history; to emphasize the commercial and industrial point of view; and, if possible, to give some insight into social evolution. It is the treatment of social evolution which suffers most from overcrowding. Such evolution as is evident appears to be after all largely a physical change and a shifting of political power and national prominence. Of the growth of the more subtle but most powerful structures in the great fabric of exchange the author says little. Competition, wage systems, law, insurance, property rights, credit, profits, commercial organization, a pecuniary calculus, and social attitudes are not dealt with in an evolutionary sense. Nor is the unwary reader prevented from studying the descriptions of ancient trade with all of his twentieth-century preconceptions and the mental attitudes inherent in our modern society.

Dr. Herrick breaks company with the historian who has given us history "of the wrong sort" and whose treatment emphasizes "a too great exaltation of the political existence of our own nation." But he is true to this denial only to a degree. He avoids well the provincialism that identifies America with the world, but he does so only by emphasizing other nations. He is faithful to the traditions of the orthodox historian in that he ever deals with trade as a national matter and describes commerce always as viewed from a single land.

Altogether the book is not a history of commerce and industry in the most real sense. It is a collection of chapters, each dealing with a

brief history and description of the business of a country. The book is one which teachers will find not only teachable but of immense value. It leaves an adequate history of commerce, however, still to be written.

LEVERETT S. LYON

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Bulletin of the Public Affairs Information Service, Vol. III, 1917.
New York: H. W. Wilson Co.

The *Bulletin of the Public Affairs Information Service*, which has reached its third annual cumulation, shows a very considerable increase over the previous year in the amount of material indexed. This increase consists largely of additional pamphlets, proceedings of meetings, reports, etc. There is also a very notable expansion of the very useful list of notices of state and national legislation, governors' messages, and laws on economic, social, and other topics which interest the public mind. The exhaustive character of this list and the excellent, workable alphabetical arrangement of the subjects indexed place the bulletin in the first rank of useful reference texts covering this field.

The list of notices of special reports of conferences, public investigations, and surveys shows evidence of much painstaking effort and promises to become quite as distinctive and useful a feature of the bulletin as the list of notices of state legislation above referred to.

The list of bibliographic typewritten material contained in the last pages of the volume cover a very wide range of subjects engaging public thought and activity, particularly along social, political, and economic lines. Many of these lists are prepared by, or in collaboration with, the bibliographical division of the Library of Congress. These lists may be purchased or borrowed for copying purposes. While they do not exhaust the material on any one subject, they very adequately fill a large and growing demand for material desired for quick and ready reference on current topics of the day.

C. M. GETTYS

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Mine Taxation in the United States. By L. E. YOUNG, E.M., Ph.D.
Urbana: University of Illinois. Pp. 275. No. 4 in the 1916 series
of the *University of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences*, V, 531-805.

The present study was undertaken in the hope that it might "serve to bring to a number of economists something of value from the mining field, and to some of the mining profession something helpful from the field of taxa-